Assessment of services of telephone operators

†4596. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that standards have been fixed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for services of the telephone operators of the country;

(b) if so, whether the assessment of the above services is also made on the basis of these norms;

(c) if so, the existing arrangement for assessment; and

(d) the status of quality of telecom services in the country on the basis of this arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of service providers against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service parameters through:

(i) quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMR);

(ii) monthly congestion reports on the parameter of Point of Interconnection (POI) congestion.

(iii) assessing the Quality of Service provided by the service providers through independent agency; and

(iv) assessing periodically the customer perception of service, against the Quality of Service benchmarks through surveys by independent agency.

(d) As per TRAI's quarterly Performance Monitoring Report (PMR) for the quarter ending 31-12-2006, most of the service providers are generally meeting the Quality of Service benchmarks. The mobile telecom network

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in the country is growing at a fast rate. In order to meet the growing demand due to the rapid growth of the mobile services and for improving the mobile connectivity, the telecom Service Providers are to progressively augment their mobile network infrastructure and optimize the same.

Rural credit to the needy in villages

4597. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Post of A.P. circle has signed an MoU with any of the Public Sector Banks to provide short-term rural credit to the needy in the villages on the lines of the initiatives taken in Maharashtra circle;

(b) if so, since when the facility has come into force and the number of villagers that have been provided with short-term consumption credit;

(c) the amount of commission the India Post is paid for each loan by the Banks and the estimated total income from the above source; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) No proposal has been finalized as yet.

Mega GSM tender in CIT Sector

†4598. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to award a mega GSM tender for the companies related to Communications and Information Technology sector; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.